DATE 2-8-07

considered for inclusion in the 2007 Executive Budget. The variations were based on two possible scenarios:

Option #1 – Provide the funding necessary of offer insurance to only those personal assistants who work an average of 20 or more hours per week; or

Option # 2 – Provide the funding necessary to offer insurance to only those personal assistants who work an average of 30 hours or more per week.

While neither of these SLTCD budget proposals appear to have yet been included in the Executive Budget currently under development, the original SLTCD proposal cost estimates have been used here with one modification – in order to allow time for the inevitable delays associated with start-up and implementation the funding in FY2008 does not start until January/2008.

PROJECTED COSTS

OPTION #1: Personal Assistants must work at least 20 hours per week.

	FY2008	1 3	FY2009	/	Biennium
Total:	\$4,077,708		\$9,174,843	- 1	\$13,252,551
G.F.:	\$1,290,187		\$2,945,125	/	\$4,235,312
Federal:	\$2,787,521		\$6,229,718		\$9,017,239

Estimated Number of Direct Care Workers Insured: 1,700

OPTION # 2: Personal Assistants must work at least 30 hours per week.

	FY2008	FY2009	Biennium
Total:	\$2,397,767	\$5,394,975	\$7,792,742
G.F.:	\$758,654	\$1,731,787	\$2,490,441
Federal:	\$1,639,113	\$3,663,188	\$5,302,301

Estimated Number of Direct Care Workers Insured: 1,000

Note: The work group plans on conducting another survey of Medicaid personal assistants in order to update the original SLTCD cost estimates after the remaining decisions regarding the exact nature of the insurance coverage and specific requirements for a personal assistant to be eligible to participate are made.

Funding Sources

The proposal is funded with Medicaid at the state's FMAP rate of approximately 68% federal funds/32% state funds.

Implementation

Senator John Cobb has submitted a Bill Draft Request (LC0193) titled "Health Insurance Incentives for Medicaid Healthcare Workers." The purpose of the bill would be to implement a variation of the proposal described here. The work group originally convened by SLTCD will continue to meet in order provide